

AMENDMENTS – IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (currently amended) A method of blurring a digital image, comprising the steps of:

separating the digital image into noisy artifacts and less noisy artifacts;

averaging magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of said[[the]] less noisy artifacts over a spatial range for a[[each]] pixel of the digital image; and

guiding magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of at least one of the noisy artifacts by magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of at least one of said[[the]] less noisy artifacts in the step of averaging, wherein the multi-pixel detail of said at least one of the noisy artifact corresponds to the multi-pixel detail of said at least one of said less noisy artifacts.
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of guiding comprises the steps of:

determining a difference between a pixel at a centrum of the spatial range and another pixel of the spatial range; and

weighting the noisy artifact based on the difference[[s]].
3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the steps of determining and weighting are each performed with respect to each pixel of the image and the weighting correlates each spatial range of the less noisy artifacts with each corresponding range of the noisy artifacts.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
- deriving a representation noisy artifact as the average of the noisy artifacts; and
- wherein the steps of guiding and weighting are performed with the representative noisy artifact.

5. (currently amended) A method of blurring, comprising the steps of:
 - deriving a noisy artifact;
 - selecting a less noisy artifact;
 - subdividing the noisy artifact into a plurality of windows;
 - subdividing each of the plurality of windows into a plurality of squares;
 - subdividing the less noisy artifact into a plurality of windows corresponding to the plurality of windows of the noisy artifact;
 - subdividing each of the plurality of windows of the less noisy artifact into a plurality of squares corresponding to the plurality of squares of the noisy artifact;
 - determining a difference between a square at a centrum of a window of the less noisy artifact and all of the other ~~another~~ squares within the window of the less noisy artifact;
 - weighting a value for ~~[[the]]~~ each of said another squares based on the difference;
 - summing all of the values for said other ~~[[the]]~~ squares as so weighted;
 - multiplying a value for each one of said other ~~[[the]]~~ squares of the window of the noisy artifact by ~~[[the]]~~ results of the step of summing;
 - summing ~~all of the~~ said results of the step of multiplying for each of said other squares of the window of the noisy artifact; and
 - dividing ~~[[the]]~~ said results of the step of summing ~~all of the~~ said results, by the result of the step of summing all of the values for ~~[[the]]~~ said other squares.
6. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

clamping the weighting step between minimum and maximum extremes, if the noisy artifact tends to be overly expressed in a result.

7. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of clamping the step of weighting so that the weight for the value is in the range of 0 to 1.

8. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the noisy artifact and the less noisy artifact exhibit the color green; and further comprising the steps of:

varying the step of weighting by (a) 75% for the square of the window of the noisy artifact which is less than the square at the centrum of the window of the noisy artifact and (b) 25% for each square of the window of the noisy artifact which is not less than the square at the centrum of the window of the noisy artifact.

9. (currently amended) A method of blurring, comprising the step of guiding magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of a noisy artifact by magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of a less noisy artifact, wherein said guiding is performed dependent upon averaging said magnitude of the multi-pixel detail of the less noisy artifact over a spatial range for a pixel of the digital image.

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of guiding comprises the step of limiting an expression of an overly expressed property of the noisy artifact.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the noisy artifact exhibits a property of the color green.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) A method of signal processing, comprising the steps of:
deriving a noisy artifact and a less noisy artifact from an analog signal; and
guiding magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of the noisy artifact by magnitude of a
corresponding multi-pixel detail of the less noisy artifact.
17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of averaging a
region of the noisy artifact; and wherein the step of guiding correlates the region of the
noisy artifact with a corresponding region of the less noisy artifact.
18. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:
repeating the steps of deriving, guiding, and averaging with more than one noisy
artifact.
19. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:
repeating the steps of deriving, guiding, and averaging with more than one less
noisy artifact.
20. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:
repeating the steps of deriving, guiding, and averaging with more than one noisy
artifact and more than one less noisy artifact.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein at least one of the more than one noisy artifact corresponds to at least one of the more than one noisy artifact, and vice versa.

22. (original) A system for blurring, comprising:

a noisy artifact;

a less noisy artifact, wherein spatial locations of the less noisy artifact corresponds to locations of the noisy artifact; and

a computer for guiding the noisy artifact by the less noisy artifact, wherein the computer is configured for averaging magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of the less noisy artifact over a spatial range for a pixel of the digital image and for guiding magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of the noisy artifact by magnitude of a multi-pixel detail of the less noisy artifact in relation to said averaging, wherein the multi-pixel detail of the noisy artifact corresponds to the multi-pixel detail of the less noisy artifact.

23. (original) The system of claim 22, wherein the computer weights the location of the noisy artifact according to a differential at the corresponding location of the less noisy artifact.